

Conservation Commission

George B Gettinger - Chairman Briscoe Lang – Vice Chairman

Julie Guerin - Secretary Julie Medeiros

Michael Scalzi Greg Myers

Dick Morrissey

Minutes of meeting, January 10, 2013

The Cumberland Conservation Commission (CCC) met on Jan. 10 at 7:20pm at the Cumberland Public Library, Hayden Center Meeting Room 4, 1464 Diamond Hill Rd., Cumberland with George Gettinger presiding. In attendance were Julie Guerin, Briscoe Lang, Mike Scalzi, Dick Morrissey, Greg Myers, Julie Medeiros, and guests Lucille Martin, John Monaghan, and Frank Geary.

Members held a surprise celebration for Ms Guerin in recognition of her last meeting after 23 years on the CCC. Previous members Lucille Martin, John Monaghan, and Frank Geary were invited to

attend and share highlights of their years on the CCC with Ms Guerin.

She thanked everyone for the party and expressed her gratitude at working with such a great group of people over the years.

Minutes: Minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Mr. Lang reported that the remaining balance of \$2,000 in the treasury is earmarked for expenses that will be listed as they are incurred.

Old Business

Emerson property – Ms Medeiros reported that she contacted Mr. Richard Powers, town resident and guest at the December meeting. They walked the property from the entrance on West Wrentham Rd.

Monastery Trails – Mr. Morrissey reported that he is still waiting for the signs from the Allmark Sign Co. Supplies for trail marking have been delivered. A date to blaze the trails and erect the signs is to be determined, and will coincide with an announcement in the Valley Breeze.

Franklin Farm – Ms Medeiros was unanimously voted as the new liaison from the CCC to the Franklin Farm Association.

Photo Contest – Mr. Myers reported that details are being planned and will be presented at the February meeting. Dr. Gettinger will pass along his information on the website that he created for posting

entries.

New Business

Communication from Cumberland Land Trust (CLT) – Mr. Scalzi reported that he and Dr. Gettinger attended the CLT meeting on Sat., Dec. 15 where information on the purchase of the 7.4 acre parcel was presented.

February Meeting Date – Due to the second Thursday of February falling on Valentine's Day this year, the CCC meeting will be held on Thurs., Feb. 7th instead of Feb. 14th. Ms Guerin will notify the Town Clerk, and Dr. Gettinger will notify the Cumberland Library of the date change.

Preservation of Stone Walls Ordinance – Mr. Scalzi expressed concerns that there is no protection in town for historic stone walls. Dr. Gettinger distributed copies of stone wall protection and preservation ordinances that have been enacted in Smithfield and Burrillville for review. Discussion ensued, and members voted to create a subcommittee to conduct research and draft an ordinance proposal. Mr. Scalzi was the first member appointed. The Historic District Commission may be asked to partner with the CCC on this proposal. Dr. Gettinger will contact the Town Clerk for the process to follow in proposing a new ordinance.

Secretary Opening – Due to Ms Guerin leaving, the CCC unanimously elected Ms Medeiros to fill the open position of Secretary.

Communications

Land and Water Conservation Summit – Dr. Gettinger reported that this year's summit will be held on Sat., March 9. He emailed registration information to all members.

Town Council Liaison – Dr. Gettinger reported that Councilman Scott Schmitt has been appointed as liaison from the Town Council to the CCC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Guerin

Secretary